

own people—by those whose interest is profitable operation will most enhance. Both of these objects, so much to be desired, can be achieved. The railroad can be completed by our own people. A plan has been arranged, which lacks only fifty thousand dollars of complete consummation, by which this railroad can be finished by our own people and worked for our own interests. So nearly consummated is this plan that the demand upon the business men and property owners of our own city is most imperative to stop forward.

A proposition is made, and more than half complied with, that if fifteen gentlemen, or, indeed, any number of subscribers, will form a joint stock company and raise one hundred and fifty thousand dollars in cash, the Company will contract with them to borrow this money, giving them the control of two millions of dollars of first and second mortgage bonds, and fifteen thousand shares of stock when the road is finished; the lenders to pledge themselves to raise on these bonds, in addition to the one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars, with which the road can and will be completed to Charlotte on the Eastern, and Shelby on the Western division. This will give two hundred and forty-two miles of continuous railroad from Wilmington, and a business which will enable the road to pay its expenses, its interest and to provide a surplus fund for extending the Western division.

As a business proposition merely nothing could be safer or more remunerative to the subscribers. To say nothing of the stock in the Company, the two millions of dollars of bonds, for which the lenders would be charged only nine hundred thousand dollars, cannot be worth less, based upon a mortgage on a railroad two hundred and forty-two miles long, than one million three hundred thousand dollars, a profit of four hundred thousand dollars upon the bonds alone.

This is a plain business proposition which can be understood. It requires little figuring to calculate the difference in the value of mortgage bonds upon two disconnected, unfinished sections of a railroad, each with one of their temporary termini in the woods, and the same bonds based upon a completed road from the mountains to the seaboard.

The completion and control of this great railroad is essential to the welfare of Wilmington especially. The regulation of the passage and freight rates and the transportation by its own steamship lines, of the vast products of the West, and the returning merchandise of the East is a matter of the utmost importance. With the links to the mountains completed, the road becomes self-sustaining, and its extension to the Mississippi Valley must be rapid. When this is accomplished, and it can be accomplished without a great effort and with great profit, this road becomes the Wilmington and Mississippi Railroad, and will do as much for our little city as the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad did for Baltimore. It only remains for our own people to say whether the work shall go on through their efforts or be left to strangers—strangers in interest as well as in location—to complete.

Impersonal Journalism.

We see much in the State papers in regard to the personalities of the press. We know not, and care very little whether these reflections are directed toward us. We are not advised whether these censors regard the *Journal* as one of the papers which voice in personalities to such an extent as to fall under their displeasure. We reflect upon individuals generally with hesitation, always with regret, but conscientiously, fearlessly and pointedly. We never touch upon such matters doubtfully or by innuendo; and never unless we regard it absolutely necessary.

It can hardly be an accident that the men who write most and object most to the personalities of the press are the younger occupants of the sanctum—those whose editorial experience and political recollections do not carry them back beyond the late war. Such lectures might be excused, even justified, coming from those whose opinions and tastes were formed during the contests between the old parties. Editors and politicians who followed the successful leadership of JACKSON, or upheld the honored, but defeated banners of CLAY, and whose political motives were buried with WEBSTER and CALHOUN, can afford to lecture their younger friends upon the personalities of the press. Their blows were always aimed, full breast high, at the form of noble and honored opponents. The merest taint of character, the slightest breath of suspicion, was sufficient to end the political aspirations of the most trusted leader. Constituencies were so jealous that popular favorites must be above suspicion.

Men, educated in such a school, whose hopes are buried in the grave of the Republic's better days, might well find fault with the present style of political controversies. Mindful of the past, they may forget the "manner of men" who have had "greatness thrust upon them" in the civil disorders of the last few years. When men and parties differed only as to the means of doing the greatest good to the country, personal reflections were as unusual as they were unnecessary.

But what of to-day? Must we erect an imaginary standard of political virtue and bow before it in conventional reverence, while rogues depole the Public Treasury and ignoramus disgrace the State? Impersonal journalism is now as impossible as it would be improper. With governors like Holden, judges like Jones and Logan, and Tourgees, financiers like Littlefield, legislators like Stevens, and sheriffs like Colgrove, whose very ignorance and crimes were their only advocates for preferment, no journalist could do justice to the State without fully exposing the characters of such men who are set up in authority.

Are newspaper publishers to permit the rights of citizens to be outraged, their personal liberties to be abridged, their laws to be set at defiance, their public credit to be destroyed, without protest, because, forsooth, the exposures lead them into the denunciation of individuals?

The President complains that his political friends at the South are the subjects of personal prejudices and social ostracism, and yet he receives into his confidence such criminal refugees as Holden and Bullock, and his licentious protégé, Bowen, is thrust upon the people of Charleston, dignified into a martyr through Executive clemency. The robber, Littlefield, not only finds protection, but promotion, in another State, the finances of which he has already wrecked.

Fighting against such a party and against such leaders, Impersonal Journalism is impossible. The political warfare made upon the people of the South has been a personal warfare. Men have been proscribed because of their respectability and character to make room for men without respectability and without character. No journalist can do his duty to his State and section without exposing and denouncing the scoundrels who have brought ruin upon us.

Striking News from Europe.

The cable news from Europe is just now of more than usual interest. It may be said without exaggeration that the entire British nation is waiting in anxiety and suspense for the crisis that will decide the fate of the heir to the throne. The issue is momentous, and the political parties are earnestly speculating upon its result. The Prince's death will doubtless give a fresh impetus to the rapidly growing republican party. Its leaders held a meeting last week and resolved to take no immediate action in case of that event, but they will be watchful for an opportunity, and a crisis may be expected when the throne becomes vacant. If, on the contrary, the Prince recovers and being chastened by his near approach to death, lead a new and better life, the unpopularity he has incurred may give way to a reaction of the public feeling already moved to sympathy by his dangerous condition. He is probably neither better nor worse than the average of young peers of his age and wealth—but his countrymen expect and have a right to expect him to be better than the average. The republican leaders have boldly avowed their determination never to allow him to ascend the throne of his ancestors. A mightier hand than that of mortal man may have sealed the decree before them. But even if such is the case, it is to be hoped for England's sake, that she will find a better remedy than abandoning herself to the guidance of Sir Charles Dilke.

Mr. Odger, Mr. Bradlaugh and their fellow republicans. The order of succession has been regularly by an act of Parliament. The day has gone by when men believed that the government of a great nation belongs by divine right to the heir at law of a certain family. The supreme right to which all others must give way is that of the nation to select that government and that ruler who will best promote its greatness and prosperity. Nothing would be easier than for Parliament to alter the order of succession so as to avoid a long regency, after the Queen's death, and at the same time to preserve the monarchy. After the nation had spoken through its parliament, there would be no fear of pretensions or civil wars in the England of our day.

Not so with France. The news from that country is equally important. Everything there seems upon the eve of a new convulsion or *compétition*. Vessels of war are cruising around the coast to prevent another "return from Elba," in which McMahon might act the part of Marshal Ney. On the other hand, the Duke d'Annam—the best of the Orleans—is on the spot, and advises that if he is bold enough he can obtain the crown. The last telegrams add that there is about to surrender his powers into his hands with the sanction of the Assembly. If this is true, we fear it means another period of civil war for that unhappy land. The army by all accounts are strongly in favor of the Bonapartes, and the Republicans are numerous and bold. With three parties all nearly balanced, all eager for the possession of power, it is improbable that a peaceful solution will be obtained. The voice of the Assembly will have but little weight, for it has long ceased to express the will of the people; and by undertaking to settle the dynasty and the form of government it is going clearly beyond its powers.

The populations having been disarmed since the fall of the Commune, the army hold the balance of power. If McMahon is disposed to effect a Napoleonic restoration, the refugee of Chislehurst may once more tread the soil of France, but even in this case it is very improbable that his return will be as unresisted as was that of his uncle from Elba. The next few days will determine "under which King, Bonaparte."

"Uncles Lies the Hand that Wears a Crown."

So the poets say, and it is probable that our gracious would-be Emperor Ulysses I. begins to realize his sorrow. The "Grand Army of the Republic" are now to be met by the glorious army of the "outs" more numerous than the sands of the sea-shore. It is one of the peculiar beauties of our revised and improved form of Republican government at the present day, that no matter how excellent an administration may be, as its particular friends are in possession of the spoils, it is the interest of everybody else to turn it out in order to have a chance at the public crib. Of course, when an administration has committed as many faults and made as many enemies as the present, most of the honest men of the country will be adverse to it; and when to these are added all the outs who hope to get in by its removal, they present a very formidable mass of opposition.

Just now a strong movement is on foot to consolidate together all the elements of hostility to the President. Impediment is openly mentioned in political circles. The administration has so often gone beyond its legitimate powers that there is good ground of accusation. The only question is that of expediency. There are in the House 110 Democrats who would favor impeachment, and some few Republicans would join them; but the question openly discussed, is the possibility of buying over the twenty-five or thirty additional votes necessary to carry the votes of Impeachment. Once before the Senate, Mr. Grant would be roughly handled by Mr. Sumner and all the other enemies he has made in that body. The main ground for impeachment would be the course of the administration in the Santo Domingo affairs, and Mr. Sumner's great speech would furnish the substance of the indictment.

When this matter was first broached, the Radical organs were disposed to pool-pool it as a *canard*. But there seems to be more reality about it, than was supposed. The object of the movement is not to remove the President; this is not considered as feasible. But by placing him in a state of accusation at the bar of the country, and present at one view a complete record of all his short-comings and violations of the Constitution, it is hoped by his adversaries that he will lose every chance for a re-nomination.

There is no doubt that the opposition to General Grant among his own party, is much stronger than has generally been believed, though with a great many politicians, it arises from anything but pure patriotic motives. As for us in the South, we are very much in the position of the wounded fox that objected to the driving away of the flies which were sucking his blood, because they were already full, and would be succeeded by a hungrier set. We have suffered so much at the hands of Northern politicians that we may well be excused for being indifferent to their rise and fall. Nevertheless, some good may arise from this movement, and if it checks the course of usurpation and the centralization of the government, it may prove the dawn of a better day.

Of those who were among Grant's most enthusiastic friends and supporters is George Wilkes, editor of the *Spirit of the Times*. He has lately been interviewed by a reporter of the *Herald*, who gives a spicy account of the conversation. Wilkes describes the disappointment of Grant's former friends at finding him nothing but "a greedy, grasping, sordid, money-getting man, without delicacy or self-respect." He states further that Grant pledged himself "by the most solemn form that can be known to language, that he would be content with one term" only two days before his nomination at Chicago.

Among the most flagrant violations of law committed by General Grant are these: The misappropriation of \$1,500,000 in gold, paid over to Baez under the provisions of a treaty not yet binding or valid, and afterwards made null and void by the Senate. Who will be held responsible for this money thus taken from the public treasury?

His violation of the statute regulating the pay and duties of the President's private Secretary.

Also, recently, by his violation, in the case of his own son, of the statute forbidding leaves of absence to army officers until they shall have been two years in active service.

His violation in the case of General Sickles, of the law which forbids the holding of a civil and a military office at the same time.

Other cases might be adduced, such as the suspension of the habeas corpus, the using of the ships, sailors and soldiers of the United States to support Baez without the shadow of a right to do so. But it is useless to multiply instances. If a President is allowed to violate one law, why not a hundred?

Such usurpation in former days would have landed any President from his chair; but Lincoln's pithy aphorism is the motto of our day:—"A force prime le droit." "Might overrides right."

From the Raleigh Sentinel.

NORTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

MONDAY, DEC. 12, 1871.

Mr. Waddell, sundry reports from the committee on propositions and resolutions, and an unfavorable report on a memorial for a general law prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors, recommending that it be respectfully returned to the introducer and the committee discharged, with leave to re-consideration—the proposed legislation, in the opinion of the committee, was insufficient to effect the desired end. The recommendation of the committee was concurred in.

Mr. Allen, a bill to amend sec. 25, chap. 35, rev. code, in regard to challenges of jurors. Referred.

On motion of Mr. Love, the resolution for the relief of the Sheriff of Bladen was recommitted.

Mr. Love introduced a resolution providing for night sessions, which was modified, on motion of Messrs. Graham, of Orange, and Gilmer, so as to provide for night sessions Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from and after to-day. Adopted, 25 to 26.

The bill to regulate the time in which to deliver complaints in civil actions in cases of suits brought in counties other than that in which defendant lives, was put upon its third reading. [Requires the delivery to be made ten days before the appearance term.]

The bill was amended, on motion of Mr. Whiteside, and was then rejected—17 to 12.

Mr. Merrimon introduced a bill to ratify sales of real estate where the order for such sales were irregularly made. Referred.

Mr. Clark introduced a resolution calling on the adjutant general for an itemized statement of the expenses of Col. Clarke's regiment during the late Kirk war. He explained that this information had been asked for last session and not furnished.

Mr. Old moved to amend by striking the word "war."

Mr. Gilmer moved to lay the resolution and amendment on the table. Adopted.

The resolution in favor of Judge Cloud passed its second reading under a suspension of the rules, unanimously.

The bill to be entitled an act to amend the constitution of North Carolina, was put upon its second reading. On motion of Mr. Robbins, the consideration of the bill was postponed till Monday next.

The bill to prevent the sale of spirituous liquors to the Indians to Shuloh church, Anson county, was put on its second reading, and passed 15 to 13.

The bill to amend the charter of the Western Railroad Company passed its second reading.

The bill introduced by Mr. Morehead, to be entitled an act to authorize the formation of railroad corporations and to regulate their affairs, was put upon its second reading. The bill passed its second reading.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, NOV. 11.

Mr. Justice from the select committee to examine into the alleged frauds in the public printing, submitted a minority report signed by himself and Senator Hawkins.—The report sets forth that the contract has been violated by the public printer.

The report was placed on the calendar.

By Mr. Harris, of Guilford, a resolution to consolidate the indices to books of grants in the Secretary of State office; placed on calendar.

The consideration of the bill to provide for the collection of taxes by the State and by the several counties of the State, was resumed, and after being amended in a number of particulars, passed its second reading.

On motion of Mr. Ashe, the bill was made the special order for Thursday.

On motion of Mr. Gregory, the bill to amend the charter of the Chatham Railroad was made the special order for to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

A message was received from the Governor transmitting communications in regard to the purchase of a site for a National Cemetery at Salisbury by the United States authorities. The matter was appropriately referred.

The bill to add certain sub-divisions to section 11, chapter 139, laws 1870-71, was taken up and postponed until Wednesday next.

On motion of Mr. Nicholson, the resolution instructing the judiciary committee to report a bill in regard to usury was taken up and adopted.

On motion of Mr. Harris, of Guilford, the resolution to consolidate the indices of grants of land was taken up and referred to a special committee of three.

By Mr. Nicholson, a bill to allow a mortgage deposit in lieu of personal security; referred.

By Mr. Houston, a resolution holding night sessions; placed on the calendar.

SENATE.

TUESDAY, DEC. 12.

The bill to amend the charter of the Western Railroad Company passed its third reading.

The special order, the bill to exchange the stocks of the State for bonds for \$250,000, was taken up, and the bill was passed, and the stocks were purchased, was taken up.

the question being on the substitute of the committee.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, DEC. 12, 1871.

Mr. Joyner, of Johnston, presented a petition from the citizens of the State in regard to the sale of intoxicating liquors. The petition was read and laid on the table; (asks the legislature to submit the question of license, or no license to a vote in each township.)

By Mr. Jordan; (by request.) A bill to prohibit the sale of liquor in townships, when the people so determine; referred.

By Mr. McCauley, A bill in relation to the registration of deeds, &c.; referred.

By Tucker, col. of Craven: A bill in relation to the tax on personal property; referred.

By Mr. Bean: A bill to repeal subdivision 3, section 360, school laws of 1869; referred.

By Mr. Ashe: A bill to amend chapter 6 of the laws of 1870-71, defining the duties of the State to regulate the running of the State at large; referred.

By Mr. Reid: A bill to authorize the counties of the State to regulate the running of the State at large; referred.

On motion of the speaker, the resolution to amend the public schools was taken up and adopted.

The Senate bill to empower the commissioners of Davidson and Randolph counties to more accurately lay off the line between those counties, was taken up and passed its second reading.

SPECIAL ORDER.

The bill concerning the Chatham Railroad Company, amending the act to incorporate said company, passed February 1, 1870, and the act amending said act, and authorizing a change of name and terms of said company, and an increase of subscription to the stock and bonds of said company, being the special order for this morning, was taken up and passed its second reading.

After a good deal of debate, the motion to postpone for 10 days was put to a vote and lost.

On motion of Mr. Gregory, the rules were suspended, and the bill was put upon its reading.

Mr. Broadfoot moved to add to the 5th section a proviso which provides that the senior or oldest child of a child who may be surrendered by the said company shall not be special tax bonds.

After a long debate the amendment was rejected, and the bill then passed its third reading.

By Mr. Smith, of Anson, a bill to amend chapter 11, C. C. P. referred.

The chair announced the following gentlemen as members of the joint committee on the bill to amend the constitution of the State, to-wit: 1st District, Messrs. Lucas and Buxton. 2nd District, Messrs. Dunham and Hardy. 3rd District, Messrs. Currie and Ashe. 4th District, Messrs. Wronson and Lusk. 5th District, Messrs. McAllister and Jones. 6th District, Messrs. Reid and Kelly, of Davis. 7th District, Messrs. Young, of Yancey, and Morris.

A Vote from Virginia.

It cannot yet be said of Old Virginia that her soil and atmosphere have ceased to be productive of the qualities of a pure statesmanship, the message of Governor Walker to the General Assembly, and the address of the Governor to the people, and the establishment and perpetuity of free government, interest and inspire the citizens of the Commonwealth, and the famous inaugural of Jefferson. Accepting every fact resulting from the recent struggle with secession, Gov. Walker warns the people that they have entered upon a new period of peril, and that they must be prepared to swing in 1871 to the opposite extreme of 1861; and he proceeds with a plain recapitulation of the wrongs, usurpations and abuses that have taken possession of the Government, culminating in a systematic tyranny and terrorism for which no free government can anywhere find room. He arraigns, though without any symptoms of passion, the venality that holds its court in public places, the infamous approaches of tyranny, which finally exerts no general alarm when Federal soldiers with loaded guns and Federal batteries beleaguer a city to quell the voice of honest citizens; the imposition of unbecoming and corrupt local governments upon a people who are afterwards punished for the rottenness of these governments by the deprivation of civil government, and the restoration of a system of citizens without warrant of law; and the driving away of entire communities of peaceable men to jail, like cattle to the slaughter.

Not by these means, he asserts with perfect truth, is reconstruction to succeed and the Union to be cemented. Affection is not the child of force, nor is liberty nurtured by tyranny, nor peace the result of war. The country can be healed of its serious illness, there must be a restoration of its pristine purity and excellence to the National Government, the people are appealed to, and the power is qualified to command the reforms needed. They are to insist on the inalienability of the great writ of *habeas corpus*, on the subordination of the military to the civil power, on the restoration of the public credit, the reduction of tariffs and taxation to the lowest degree consistent with the maintenance of the nation's promises, free education for all, a fostering care for the education of the colored race, and the restoration of the public credit, and the driving away of entire communities of peaceable men to jail, like cattle to the slaughter.

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